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THE MASSACHUSETTS TERCENTENARY

By EDWIN D. MEAD

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The Massachusetts Tercentenary is at the door. There have been multifarious activities in anticipation of it: but are not the multitudes of our people joining in the swelling outcry justified in their charge that the preparations for the observance of this great historic anniversary are utterly incommensurate with its importance, and that the citizens of Massachusetts generally have seemed strangely indifferent to it? This indifference and inadequacy are in striking contrast to the enthusiasm and liberality of the citizens of Chicago concerning the approaching celebration of their centennial in 1933. The founding of Chicago, the great Western metropolis, of which all Americans are proud, was an insignificant event in our history compared with the founding of Boston and Massachusetts; yet in a single week last spring the energetic business men of Chicago raised \$10,000,000 for the preliminary expenses of the preparation for the exposition in celebration of their centennial. Boston is as rich a city as Chicago; its history is vastly more significant; yet what are we doing for the observance of its tercentenary? One of our Boston papers in a leading editorial says: "Inquiries multiply as to the what, when, why, how and where of it all."

Rev. Albert E. Winship, the editor of the New England Journal of Education, who is so great a traveler and has such exceptional opportunities to know the sentiment of the country, says that he never speaks before audiences in any city where he is not greeted by important persons of New England descent, "and everywhere there is severe criticism of the absence of preparation for the Tercentenary. They say it is because Bostonians of today have no appreciation of the ancestors of New Englanders of the West." Unhappily it is a representative and very common utterance. We do not like to believe that it is true; but Boston and Massachusetts cannot permit anybody to believe it is true. Ten million dollars toward preparation for the Tercentenary commemoration matching Chicago's generous public spirit is at this moment a small price for the business and banking men of Boston to pay for an effective answer to this criticism.

It would be wrong not to recognize gratefully the immense amount of earnest work in preparation for the commemoration which has been done by the committees to whom it gravitated and who were devoted and enterprising when others were not enterprising. But this does not meet the situation. This pioneering work should now be supplemented, as we are on the eve of the Tercentenary, by the imprimatur of an honorary committee of the highest dignity — of which Calvin Coolidge might well be the president, Governor Allen and Mayor Curley the joint chairmen, with ex-Governors Foss, Bates, Cox and Fuller, Senators Walsh and Gillett, the Massachusetts Congressmen representing the various sections of the

State, and the Presidents of Harvard University and our other universities and colleges associated with them. Such an organization would give the confidence and make the appeal which are demanded.

But more important is the reconstructed Executive Committee which clearly is immediately demanded. The chairman of the Chicago Committee referred to is the brother of Charles G. Dawes. But for his diplomatic duties, Charles G. Dawes himself would probably have served as chairman. Boston and Massachusetts must act similarly. If Alvan T. Fuller, with his large experience and his great influence with our political and business leaders, would take the chairmanship of the Tercentenary Executive Committee, the public confidence which would instantly result would be worth a million dollars. With him should be associated as Executive Secretary a man like Robert L. O'Brien or George W. Coleman, with a strong staff of his own selection. One man who ought to have place on the committee is John F. Fitzgerald, whose early and late enthusiasm for the cause has been so inspiring and exemplary. Henry I. Harriman, the president of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, should be on the committee, and such persons as Mrs. James J. Storrow, Miss Ada L. Comstock, Edward A. Filene, Courtenay Guild, Richard Hooker, John F. Moors, T. Jefferson Coolidge, Henry L. Shattuck, and Allen Forbes.

Most important of all at the moment clearly is the creation of a Finance Committee of the highest character and ability. It is almost incredible that this should not have been done two years ago, at the beginning of the planning. Recriminations about that, however, would be ungracious and useless. The City and the Commonwealth are confronted by a situation, with their reputation and honor at stake. The Tercentenary Committee, at the end of 1929, submits a statement showing that it is practically without funds, and that without a quick supply of \$2,000,000 even the modest plans which it has made cannot be carried out. It will appeal to the Legislature for an immediate appropriation of \$500,000. It should make a similar appeal to the Boston City Government, for the Tercentenary concerns the City as much as the State. The Boston Chamber of Commerce should take the matter in hand by the appointment of a strong Finance Committee of our commercial and banking leaders, after the manner of Chicago; and no one who knows Boston can doubt that their action would quickly yield the additional million dollars, completing the provision which according to the Tercentenary Committee is required for the immediate exigency.

The time has come for the Press of Boston and the State to take a vastly stronger hand than it has done hitherto in the promotion of the ambitious and fitting observance of the Tercentenary. Were an event approaching this in significance and scope being staged in Chicago or Cleveland, the newspapers of those cities and their respective states would be full of the plans for it and their earnest discussion. A well-directed editorial campaign here could accomplish almost revolutionary results in making our commemoration what it ought to be and rousing the public to the right concern in it.

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Do the people of Boston and Massachusetts always realize

the import of the founding of the City and the Commonwealth in human history? "Next to the fugitives whom Moses led out of Egypt," Lowell wrote, "the little shipload of outcasts who landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620 are destined to influence the future of the world." "The history of Massachusetts," wrote Charles Francis Adams, the late president of our Massachusetts Historical Society, "is the record of the gradual and practical development of a political and social truth of the highest importance. Viewed in this light, the passage of the Red Sea was not a more momentous event than the voyage of the Mayflower; and the founding of Boston was fraught with consequences hardly less important than those which resulted from the founding of Rome."

I believe that these high claims are warranted and just. If any are disposed to view them as the glowing periods of a perfervid patriotism, let such turn to the pages of Darwin, who in his "Descent of Man" says: "There is apparently much truth in the belief that the wonderful progress of the United States as well as the characteristics of the people are the results of natural selection; for the more energetic, restless and courageous men from all parts of Europe have emigrated during the last ten or twelve generations to that great country and have there succeeded best. Looking to the distant future, I do not think that Mr. Zinke takes an exaggerated view"; and he proceeded to quote from a book on the United States, then just published, by Rev. Barham Zinke, an eminent English religious and educational teacher, who visited this country just after the Civil War. The chapter on Boston, "the hub of the world," is one of the last in Mr. Zinke's book. Having studied the German and other elements of our mixed race, he was convinced that it was New England which had leavened and must continue to leaven "the whole lump." Of Massachusetts he wrote: "The ideas which have governed the Americans hitherto have been supplied from New England; but Massachusetts has been the wheel within New England, and Boston the wheel within Massachusetts." Contemplating the significance in human history of the great American republic which he had crossed the ocean to visit, he is moved to define it as the culmination of the march of civilization and especially the advance of the Teutonic race. Touching on the immigration of the Saxons and Danes to England and the free institutions which they developed, he continues: "But the great drama was not yet complete. The broad Atlantic had to be crossed. A new world had to be occupied. The English race must itself be sifted, and none but those who have nerve as firm as that of the Pilgrim Fathers can take part in this mighty enterprise." He defines the great Puritan movement into New England as that which was "most enterprising and progressive in the English race, the purest selection of that which was most select." "The like of this has not been done by any other race of men. It is the main stream in the history of man." He concludes with the words which Darwin so impressively cites: "All other series of events, as that which resulted in the culture of the mind of Greece and in the empire of Rome, only appear to have purpose and value when viewed in connection with it or rather as subsidiary to it."

Is our Massachusetts Tercentenary commemoration being staged upon the level of this high note? To many it seems that it is not. Ten million visitors to Massachusetts, it is proclaimed, are expected for the Tercentenary events in 1930. What are they coming to see and hear?

It has been properly decided that our celebration shall not take the form of a great commercial and industrial exposition, after a common fashion. It will be distinctly historical and educational. Yet as we survey our three centuries we may not forget that Massachusetts has been a great industrial state, the very cradle of American industrial life. Boston should not be the center for this recognition. There should be at Lowell, the pioneering center of our textile industry, a comprehensive and splendid cotton exposition covering the history and activities of this great Massachusetts interest, under a commission in which the men of Lawrence, Fall River and New Bedford would have place with the Lowell leaders. At Brockton, there should be a magnificent exposition of equal scope of our great distinctive shoe industry, with the co-operation of Lynn and Haverhill and Marlboro. Worcester, with Hopedale, Fitchburg and other manufacturing centers at its doors, is the natural place for the exposition illustrating the iron and machine industries. All of these places are within an hour of Boston; and it would be far more satisfying to visit these expositions outside of Boston than in Boston itself in the congested summer. Salem, older than Boston, already having commemorated her founding, and with a long and varied history and a rare charm which will draw many to her in 1930, should be the center, as indeed she is planning in a large and generous way, for the exposition devoted to our maritime industry and history, with its admirable Marine Museum supplemented for the occasion by a spacious special building; while the invaluable historical collections of her Essex Institute will alone attract thousands of pilgrims. New Bedford should similarly supplement its valuable maritime museum by a spacious building and collection illustrating the whaling life of New Bedford and Nantucket, which constituted so unique a chapter in our Massachusetts history. One of the old whaling ships is piously moored at South Dartmouth, carefully preserved for visitors by one who loves that history; and the inspection of this revered relic would be an interesting episode for the tourist. Commodious launches should make daily trips from South Dartmouth to the island of Cuttyhunk, where Gosnold in 1602 made the first English settlement in New England, marked at its tercentenary by a fitting monument. Hundreds of pilgrims to New Bedford will wish to combine with their visit there a trip to Nantucket by the fine steamer from New Bedford, thus seeing pleasantly both of the historic old Massachusetts whaling towns. They will find Nantucket's own whaling museum ambitiously developing.

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Quaint Provincetown, in whose harbor the Mayflower Compact was signed, and which the Provincetown artists and the Provincetown players have given new fame, should be served during the commemoration summer by a much larger steamer than the ordinary boat; and the Cape Cod train by which the

tourist to Provincetown would go or return would give him a charming glimpse of that characteristic part of Massachusetts.

Plymouth will vie with Salem and Boston in its interest for the visitor concerned with the history of the founding of Massachusetts. Her tercentenary came in 1920; but her appeal is perennial, and the new framing of Plymouth Rock, the improved Pilgrim Hall, and the beautiful new Memorial Hall, enhance her old attraction. There will undoubtedly be some impressive special commemoration at Plymouth in the summer.

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The agricultural interests of Massachusetts will be fittingly presented by the regular Agricultural Fairs at Brockton and Springfield, Worcester and the other State centers. These for this great representative occasion will be much larger than usual, covering at least a fortnight, with many unusual features, and with many conferences both at these fairs and at Horticultural Hall in Boston on the varied agricultural activities and problems of New England. At Horticultural Hall and the Arnold Arboretum throughout the summer there should be a series of special flower shows of broad and beautiful scope.

All these events should be arranged and managed by independent committees, appealing largely to local pride, local responsibility and local support, with slight draft upon the Boston headquarters. Such division of interest and effort is the guarantee of vitality and success. But in all these local enterprises, as in the Tercentenary altogether, the Massachusetts members of the New England Council should earnestly coöperate. Indeed, the whole New England Council should do its uttermost, as its magnificent enterprise and efficiency assure us it will do, to promote the success of the commemoration in every way; for it concerns all New England and offers the greatest opportunity of the century to concentrate the attention of the country on New England, her historical significance and her present interests.

In the promotion of the historical interests of the Commonwealth, the Massachusetts organization will of course enlist the coöperation of the great New England Societies of New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and other cities, a coöperation which will be generously given.

The various Ohio Societies of the country will coöperate with our Tercentenary Committee in arranging at old Rutland, "the cradle of Ohio," the commemoration of the pioneering work of Massachusetts in the great work of opening and settling the West in the period immediately following the Revolution.

Important local celebrations should for the most part be limited to those places where local history is a part of State history. There has been much effort, to some it has seemed disproportionate effort, to stir up the different towns of the State to local celebrations in connection with the Tercentenary. Such local historical celebrations are intrinsically of great patriotic and educational value, and some of those announced for next summer are planned with much intelligence and public spirit. But other years would be for many such more timely and propitious; and nothing should be allowed to dissipate attention from the great central features of the State celebration, which is what must primarily appeal to the visitor and to our own people.

In Boston itself should be arranged only those expositions which concern the State's cultural life: 1. Education; 2. Printing and Publishing; 3. Libraries and Literature; 4. Art; 5. History. The great poets of our Golden Age were Boston poets. Boston has been one of the world's great publishing centers. The history of education in Massachusetts, from the founding of the Boston Latin School and Harvard College to the time of Horace Mann and Charles W. Eliot, forms a cardinal chapter in American advance. Massachusetts was the cradle of the public library movement, not only for this country but for the world. Fifty years ago more than half of the public libraries in the United States were in this Commonwealth; and until yesterday the Boston Public Library has been without a peer. There is not today a town in the Commonwealth without a free public library.

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The 1930 Education Exposition, arranged by the State Board of Education and the various college and university boards, with the coöperation of the Boston School Committee, should present comprehensively the whole history and present activities of Massachusetts education. Harvard University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston University, Tufts College, Simmons, Boston College, Holy Cross, Clark, Amherst, Williams, Smith, Mt. Holyoke, Wellesley, Wheaton, Phillips Academy, Groton and the rest should all have their respective halls, along with the public schools, all vying with each other in enthusiastic emulation in the presentation, by charts, pictures, books and models, of their founding and development. The 1930 convention of the National Education Association should be brought to Boston, to profit by this great Massachusetts Education Exhibit as well as by its coming to stir our pride in its creation and completeness.

In a special fireproof wing to this Education Building it seems to me not impossible that we might see installed for this historic occasion Mr. George A. Plimpton's famous collection of school text-books, the most important collection of this character in existence, representing all the centuries and countries of modern time and covering all departments of education. Mr. Plimpton has been engaged for half his life-time in making this collection, and no other approaches it in extent or value. Mr. Plimpton, the present head of the great educational publishing house of Ginn and Company, is now a resident of New York; but he was a Massachusetts boy, still owns and frequents the old Plimpton home at Walpole, is a graduate of Amherst College, and has been for twenty years the president of its board of trustees. It has been said that his great collection will ultimately be given to the control of Columbia University. But it has also been understood that he has considered its exhibition here for the benefit of Boston and Cambridge scholars before its final disposition; and surely no occasion could be more fitting than this. The matter should certainly be submitted to Mr. Plimpton by the commission on the Education Exposition.

Cambridge has been the great Massachusetts center for beautiful printings from our earliest days down to the time of the University Press, the Riverside Press and the Athenæum Press. Norwood, a notable new center, is not far away. The

Printing Exposition should be in the hands of a committee representing the half dozen great concerns, and should be a comprehensive presentation of the whole history of printing and publishing in Massachusetts and of all the modern processes and machinery for the making and illustrating of books, with the finest presses in operation.

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The Library Exposition, besides picturing our magnificent Massachusetts system, with illustrations of the best libraries in the State, might fittingly embody a presentation of the finest public libraries of the country and of the world, owing their inspiration in no small degree to our pioneering achievements. The 1930 convention of the American Library Association should be invited to hold its sessions in the conference halls of this Library Building. The Literature Exposition should occupy a special section of this exposition; and a notable feature of it should be a spacious hall for the installation of a library made up entirely of the works of Massachusetts authors in every department of literature and science. Such a collection, carefully selected by an expert committee, would by its variety and extent astound many of our own people, as it would stir the pride of all; and at the close of the Tercentenary commemoration it might be distributed to the libraries of our Normal Schools or transferred intact to a chosen place. The whole arrangement and control of this Library Exposition should be placed in the hands of the Massachusetts Library Association, seconded by such splendid local men as the present librarians of the Boston Public Library, the Boston Athenæum, the State Library and the Harvard Library.

The Literature Exposition should appropriate special rooms to the memory of Emerson, Longfellow, Lowell, Whittier, Holmes, Hawthorne and Bryant, the illustrious writers of our Golden Age, with each room furnished with the completest collection of portraits, with shelves of the most valuable editions of their works, and the walls adorned by views of places associated with their works. A special room should be similarly allotted to the Massachusetts historians, from Bradford and Winthrop to Bancroft, Prescott, Motley, Parkman and John Fiske; and this room should be duplicated in the History Exposition.

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Were there sufficient time and money for it, large special buildings for these three Expositions should be erected on the Cambridge side of Charles River, where there is much unoccupied land available for such temporary use. The Education Building in such case should be of a permanent character, available for many years to come for periodical educational exhibits and conferences. But anything of this kind would have had to be started a year ago. There is now clearly no time for it. Accommodations must be found in existing quarters. Happily we do not seem to be entirely without resource. The great Cavalry Armory on Commonwealth Avenue, in the Allston section, would furnish good space for the Education and Printing Expositions. It has an enormous floor area, 300 by 200 feet, with a broad gallery equally available for exhibition purposes. A temporary wooden floor

would have to be laid, but that would be neither difficult nor expensive. As the cavalry drill in the summer is chiefly transferred to summer camps, it would seem that the State would willingly give the use of the Armory from June until November.

For the Library Exposition there could be no better situated place than the exhibition halls of the Mechanics Building on Huntington Avenue, used for so many important exhibits. This has the marked advantage of being close to the Boston Public Library, whose commodious lecture hall would serve well for many conferences. But to secure the accommodations in the Mechanics Building for so long a time, prompt action would be requisite, as these halls are in much demand.

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The History and the Art Expositions would both be in Boston. Both must be in fireproof buildings. A building which would serve admirably for the History Exposition is the fine granite Armory on Columbus Avenue near Park Square. It would probably be generously granted for the purpose by the State. No other exhibit perhaps would make so strong an appeal both to the visiting stranger and to our own citizens. It should illustrate in the completest and most varied manner the whole course of Massachusetts history. There are many collections to draw from. The Massachusetts Historical Society would undoubtedly make liberal contributions from its great store; and so would the Bostonian Society, and the Essex Institute of Salem, and the Antiquarian Society at Worcester. Plymouth, Lexington, Concord and Deerfield would do their part; and portraits and invaluable relics would be loaned by old Massachusetts families. It would be such an exhibit as would make us demand more impatiently and persistently a permanent New England Historical Museum.

The doors of the Boston Art Museum will of course stand invitingly open throughout the Tercentenary summer. But that is not enough. There must be erected on some unoccupied area near it a special fireproof building for a Massachusetts Art Exposition. It must necessarily be essentially a loan exhibit. But for such an occasion loans would be generous; and by loans and otherwise an exposition must be created presenting the work of Massachusetts painters from Copley and Stuart down to the beginning of this twentieth century. Not only should the successive generations of our painters be represented, but also, by engravings, photographs and models, our conspicuous Massachusetts sculptors and architects.

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The massing of all these expositions on Commonwealth, Huntington and Columbus Avenues would have some distinct advantages for the visiting stranger, to whom the geography of Boston is not always an open book. All three avenues radiate from the Common, roughly parallel, easily located, and so related to each other as to make the varied exhibits and activities of the Tercentenary convenient to everybody. Symphony Hall, Mechanics Hall, Horticultural Hall and Jordan Hall, the places of many of the Tercentenary meetings, are all on Huntington Avenue, and the Arena is near by.

Boston in the regard of the whole country holds a pre-eminent place in music. Our Conservatory and our Handel and Haydn Society are known throughout the country, our Symphony Orchestra throughout the world; and among the millions who will come to Boston next year will be thousands of music lovers who will crave the best in music that Boston can give. The "Pop Concerts," which usually end early in the summer, should continue in 1930 into September; and from the first of September until the opening of our regular Symphony season, full symphony concerts should be given twice each week with programs of the best classical music. Throughout the season there should be frequent concerts of the finest character at Jordan Hall; and in September or October there should be two renderings each by the Handel and Haydn Society, perhaps at the Boston Garden, of the "Messiah" and the "Creation," possibly also of "Elijah" and "St. Paul." At stated times throughout the summer the splendid concerts on the Esplanade by the Charles River, recently inaugurated, should be maintained; and there should be frequent band concerts on the Common. Regular organ recitals should be arranged in the churches with the best organs—the First Church, Emmanuel, Trinity, the Old South and the Mission Church. There should be a special organ recital every week at Melrose, whose Memorial Hall contains the finest organ in the country and perhaps in the world. But the central musical feature of the summer should be a great Massachusetts Music Festival, in the Boston Garden, for a fortnight, like the famous Peace Jubilee of 1872. The great chorus should be made up of the choral societies and choirs from all the cities of the State.

A feature of great popular attraction would be the opening of large concert gardens at both the Blue Hill Reservation and Middlesex Fells. They should be provided with good refreshment facilities, with tables and a thousand seats, and with good music at intervals throughout afternoon and evening. This would be a boon to the thousands who will wish to visit those beautiful parks. Such outdoor music is regularly and finely provided for in St. Louis, San Francisco and other American cities, and should be instituted in Boston. Our Tercentenary year is a good time to begin.

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The multitudes who will come to Massachusetts next year, as well as our citizens, will have their minds concentrated on the founding and history of the Commonwealth. Thousands outside the State, especially descendants of New England in the West, think of these things more reverently than many in the State, and will make their stay here a period of serious study. It is our duty to provide the fullest facilities for this. The Harvard Summer School will undoubtedly be given unusual scope and importance, with special preparation for courses on New England history and education. But there must be more popular provision. There must be courses of lectures throughout the whole season by our best available scholars upon the subjects best illustrating the services of Massachusetts to the country and the world; courses of half a dozen lectures each, in the afternoon at the Old South Meeting House, in the evening at Huntington Hall and

Ford Hall. The regular Old South lectures for young people, to which the elders are admitted, will doubtless be devoted in 1930 to the Founding of Massachusetts; and the Old South Association might itself well take in hand, as so pertinent to its vocation, the arrangement of the various historical courses needed. The courses here contemplated are such as the following: The Beginnings of New England, perhaps by Albert Bushnell Hart; Boston in the Revolution, by William Stearns Davis; Boston and Anti-Slavery, by Professor Pearson; The Boston Poets, by Bliss Perry; Massachusetts and Her Historians, by Dr. John F. Jameson; The Maritime History of Massachusetts, by Professor Morison; Boston in the Peace Movement, by Prof. Merle Curti of Smith College, surveying the work of such illustrious leaders in international organization as Noah Worcester, William Ellery Channing, William Ladd, Elihu Burritt, Charles Sumner, Edward Everett Hale, Benjamin F. Trueblood and Edwin Ginn; and Great Men of the Boston Pulpit, from John Cotton to Phillips Brooks, by Rev. Samuel A. Eliot.

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This last subject is of such special importance in connection with the founding of Massachusetts that it should have special and prominent place. Dr. Eliot himself has recently prepared for the Massachusetts Federation of Churches a pamphlet on "The Churches and the Massachusetts Tercentenary," which should have wide circulation. He emphasizes the fundamental fact that the Puritan migration was primarily a religious migration and that spiritual guides animated the whole enterprise. "Was not the Church the center of the New England community?" The founding of Harvard College was inspired by Rev. Thomas Shepard, and "it was another young minister, John Harvard, who gave the infant college a chance to exist." It was founded because its founders dreaded "an illiterate ministry." At the time of the contest for the renewal of the charter in 1685, the petition addressed to the king declared that "Our fathers left their native land, with all the pleasant and desirable things therein, that they and their children might worship God according to the dictates of their consciences." "The important thing," said Professor Morison recently, "is that this community was established by men and women who sought the light of a higher power."

The place and power of the pulpit in our life can be presented in no better way than in a course of Sunday evening lectures on its great representative men. The first, on John Cotton, should be given at the First Church on the Sunday nearest March 22, the date of the sailing from Southampton. John Cotton had come down to preach the farewell sermon to the departing colony. Its subject was "God's Promise to His Plantation"; and it should be distributed in its pamphlet form to all who are present at this meeting at the First Church.

The First Church of Boston, like Boston itself, observes its tercentenary in 1930. The church indeed antedates the town, having been organized while the company was still at Charlestown, on July 30, 1630. Its covenant there and then adopted was so broad and simple that through all the religious changes it has remained the church's covenant to this day: "We, desirous to unite, under the Lord Jesus Christ our head, in

such sort as becometh all those whom he hath redeemed and sanctified to himself, do hereby solemnly and religiously, as in his most holy presence, promise and bind ourselves to walk in all our ways according to the rule of the Gospel, and in all sincere conformity to his holy ordinances, and in mutual love and respect to each other, so near as God shall give us grace." It would have been well if the Massachusetts churches altogether had always adhered to this simple covenant, or the yet simpler Plymouth Covenant.

At the First Church should also be given the addresses on William Emerson and Edward Everett Hale. The addresses on Increase and Cotton Mather should be given at the Second Church; that on John Harvard at the First Church in Charlestown; that on John Eliot at the First Church in Roxbury; those on Thomas Hooker and Thomas Shepard at the First Church in Cambridge; that on Thomas Prince at the Old South Church; that on Lyman Beecher at Park Street Church; that on Hosea Ballou at the Church of the Redemption; those on Jonathan Mayhew, Channing, Charles Lovell and Theodore Parker at Arlington Street Church; that on James Freeman Clarke at the Church of the Disciples; and that on Phillips Brooks at Trinity Church.

Too warm praise cannot be given the Massachusetts and Boston Federations of Churches, and especially to their devoted secretaries, Mr. Root and Mr. Paine, for the vigor and intelligence with which they are preparing to draw from the Tercentenary its highest lessons. The Order of Service for the Churches, prepared by Rev. Henry Hallam Sanderson, is most impressive. The Church is far ahead of the State in the whole matter of preparing for the Tercentenary.

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The two preëminent commemorative days of the Tercentenary will of course be June 12, the date of Winthrop's arrival at Salem, and September 17, the birthday of Boston. These commemorations with the orations will naturally be at Symphony Hall. The man to whom Massachusetts will naturally turn for the oration June 12, on the significance of Massachusetts in history, is Calvin Coolidge. An equally fitting spokesman for Boston on September 17 would be Bishop Lawrence, Boston boy and Boston man, his whole life identified with the life of the city, today Boston's most illustrious citizen. These meetings also might well be managed, as the most drastic division of labor is now necessary, by the Old South Association; and the musical features, which should be important and impressive, could be entrusted to no better hands than those of Courtenay Guild, the president both of the Handel and Haydn Society and the Apollo Club, whose interest in the worthy observance of the Tercentenary has been so untiring and so intelligent. It is of course to be desired, and rightly to be expected, that the June commemoration be arranged by the State officially, and the September commemoration by the City.

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The exercises at Lexington and Concord on Patriots' Day in 1930 will undoubtedly be of unusual importance as furnishing

perhaps the most striking occasion for commemorating the part of Massachusetts in the Revolution. The contribution of Concord to our intellectual life has been so conspicuous that a Concord Week would be fitting and impressive, with addresses on successive days on Emerson, Hawthorne, Thoreau, Alcott, Sanborn, and the Concord School of Philosophy. A similar Cambridge Week would be equally impressive.

Associated with the committee on Historical Lectures should be a special committee for a magnificent historical play or pageant on the Founding of Massachusetts, like the historical plays in England during the last 30 years, at Sherborne, Warwick and elsewhere, and that at our own Plymouth in 1920. Such pageants are most impressive when held in the open. A fitting amphitheater for ours would be some hillside facing the Blue Hills, the haunt of the old Indian tribe whose name was given to the state. Failing such a propitious spot, a suitable place would be the Harvard Stadium. An excellent place would be the natural amphitheater at Franklin Park.

The Harvard Stadium will, of course, throughout the year be the center for the athletic events, with boat races on the adjoining Charles River. Before the opening of the commemoration, regular omnibus boats should be installed for constant communication with Newton, Cambridge, Watertown and Boston.

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Many of the suggestions here made are not new. Many of them were made by me several months ago, and some of the same and other excellent suggestions have been made by others. This summary is for the sake of concentrating attention and rendering possible service to the Program Committee which will be created when the financial provision for the commemoration is made. **Upon that all thought and effort should now be concentrated.** Until \$2,000,000 is secured, no important secure steps can be taken.

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All the necessary things named are for the Tercentenary year itself. There should be in the commemoration the foundation of creations of profound and abiding significance. St. Louis pointed the way in supplementing her great exposition celebrating the centennial of the Louisiana Purchase by rearing the noble Jefferson Memorial, ranking with the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial at Washington among our impressive national monuments. Massachusetts is to celebrate a greater event than the Louisiana Purchase; and Boston and Massachusetts must rise commensurately to the occasion.

The three clear prescriptions of the occasion are a noble memorial to the Founders, the proper reconstruction of our State House, and a worthy New England Historical Museum. The first is the joint task of the City and the public; the second is the duty of the Commonwealth; the third must depend on private munificence and public spirit. Our commemoration is alike a Massachusetts and a Boston commemoration; and to the city will accrue in large measure the advantages of the permanent improvements resulting from the Tercentenary. In providing the place for the Founders Monument, the city

may also effect a greatly needed general good. A proper place for the Memorial would be the ground now occupied by the old Ticknor house at the corner of Beacon and Park Streets, with the Union Club on its south and the Claflin Building of Boston University on the east. If the fine old mansion were in its condition of half a century ago, there would be strong artistic and sentimental reasons for its preservation and its conversion to becoming purposes; but its debasement has removed those reasons. The building as it is needs to be removed, in any event. It prevents any full view of the new east wing of the State House, which, if not greatly to be deplored today, would be deplorable tomorrow; and it shuts off dangerously the sight of approaching motors on Beacon Street from drivers up Park Street. With a fine granite wall 20 feet high on the east and south sides of this cleared area, a wall where ivy might grow, as a background, a more fitting place for our Winthrop Memorial could not well be conceived. The completion of this memorial must be the work of years; but the provision of the place by the city might be the work of months, with the place cleared and beautified for the eyes of our visitors in September, 1930. In such a spot, with such a background, two methods of treatment are open to the architect and sculptor, the bold and original treatment in the great new Calvin Monument at Geneva or the ordinary grouping, as in the case of the Luther Monument at Worms. The figures to surround the central Winthrop statue would naturally be Endicott, Dudley, Saltonstall, Cotton, Harvard, Eliot and Vane; and the illustrative bas-reliefs might be set in the wall. An alternative form of the memorial would be a classical building on the line of the Lincoln Memorial at Washington, with the statues and bas-reliefs impressively placed within. Whatever the form of the memorial, Brewster and Bradford should be included in it, in reverent recognition that the founding of Plymouth was a sacred part of the founding of Massachusetts.

Boston was the center, in the two centuries following that of its founding, of the three most memorable chapters in our American history — the Revolution, the Anti-slavery movement culminating in the Civil War, and the Golden Age of our literature. All of these should sometime be commemorated in Boston by monumental groups. The first two should be somewhat like our Founders Memorial in character. The Poets' Memorial might rather be a fountain surmounted by the half dozen busts or medallions; and a fitting place would be the center of our enlarged Copley Square. The extension of Copley Square north to Newbury Street must come in no distant future; and when the Copley-Plaza hotel ultimately disappears, which no one would unduly hasten, the south side of the square would be filled by the front of the new Union Station, which at first would have before it the square between the present rear of the hotel and the front of Trinity Court. The Poets' Memorial, treated by a sculptor like our Mr. Dallin, coöperating with such an architect as Ralph Coolidge Henry, who seems latterly to have given more attention than any other to the Copley Square problem, should be a thing of beauty.

One could wish that a body of our best architects might be at this hour empowered to transform Park Square into what it

ought to be, a Trafalgar Square for Boston, double its present size. Students of the situation know that this imperative improvement, although costly, would not be difficult; tomorrow the cost might be almost prohibitive. In the center of our transformed Park Square might rise a replica of the famous old St. Botolph's tower in the English Boston, a noble and beautiful bond between the old Boston and the new. The mayor of the old English Boston will certainly be invited to participate in our Tercentenary, as well as the mayors of the English Cambridge, Plymouth, Dorchester and Southampton.

The last named creations are of course for the future. What is not for the future, but for the present, is the creation of our new Adams Square, by the removal of the buildings between Cornhill and Brattle Street, meeting at once the demand of our City Planning Commission for increased traffic accommodation between Scollay Square and Faneuil Hall and the demand so long ignored of a fitting memorial to our two great Massachusetts Presidents. Their statues should stand together at the upper end of the new Adams Square, as the statue of Samuel Adams stands at the lower end, by Faneuil Hall.

* * * *

The present spectacle on Beacon Hill as concerns the State House is depressing and intolerable; and this is the hour for thorough reconstruction. I have recently visited Olympia, the capital of Washington; and in St. Paul I saw the magnificent new Minnesota State House designed by Cass Gilbert. I went to Olympia from Tacoma expressly to see the new Washington capitol and other new state buildings; and the ambition and liberality which mark the action there are a reproach indeed to the pottering here. Washington's old State House was a commodious and creditable building. The new State House alone, a miniature in some measure of the Capitol at Washington, cost \$7,000,000; and the new buildings for the courts and other departments are of commensurate dignity and beauty. Yet Washington is a state of slight resources compared with Massachusetts, a state born yesterday, with a population not a third of ours. With an enterprise and pride like theirs, we might have on Beacon Hill, for less than \$7,000,000, a reconstructed capitol which would win the admiration of the world; yet with our unique opportunity, we have made there every mistake possible to man, with a result almost incredible. Can the State not at this Tercentenary time redeem itself, or at the new session of the Legislature make an effective start?

There is but one architectural "fixed quantity" in the problem. Reverence and taste both prescribe the preservation of the Bulfinch front; and the two new marble wings, although not in accord with the architect's design, nor with propriety, will not readily be sacrificed. Few students, I think, can believe that the old dome was made by Bulfinch as it is but for lack of resources, the same consideration which ever prevented Wren in London from carrying out his designs as he desired. No good architect scruples to borrow. The Bulfinch front of our State House is almost a replica of the river-front of Somerset House. Can one doubt that Bulfinch would have liked to make a reduced replica of the dome of St. Paul's? If he had foreseen the present extension of his capitol, he cer-

tainly would have done it; for the old dome, besides being artistically incommensurate with the beautiful front, is now utterly out of proportion to the pile. The extension at the rear, never satisfying, cannot be permanent. The State Library, now housed there, must sooner or later have its separate adjoining building. In this we may take a lesson from Sacramento, whose magnificent new State Library beside the capitol puts us to shame.

It is understood in architectural circles that Ralph Adams Cram, today Boston's best known and perhaps most gifted architect, who has long been concerned with the perplexing Beacon Hill problem, has worked out a careful plan for reconstruction. It would be well if this, properly developed, could be placed before our people; and it would be well if two or three of our leading architects, approved by him, could be associated with Mr. Cram on a commission to perfect plans to meet adequately this crying need. It would be well if this could be decreed this winter, and the plans published for our Tercentenary.

This involves much more than an improvement of the State House. It involves a complete transformation of the surroundings. Ultimately and probably soon the entire area between the State House and Joy Street must be taken by the State. At the corner of Beacon and Joy Streets should be built a replica of the beautiful old Hancock house, connected with the west wing of the State House by a fine colonnade, to serve for the offices of the Governor and Council and for State receptions; and at the corner of Mt. Vernon and Joy Streets should be our new State Library. It has recently been well suggested, in connection with talk of a memorial to those who have fallen in our various wars, that as furnishing fitting place for this and other monumental works the State should take the area between the State House and Cambridge Street, bounded on its east and west sides by Bowdoin and Hancock Streets, as a beautiful State House park or garden. As there are few important or expensive buildings on this ground, the cost, shared by the City and the State, would not be prohibitive; and the resulting improvement, from many points of view, would be immense. Fronting this park, on Bowdoin Street, should rise the fine new building for our Supreme Court; and all the surroundings of the park should be commensurately noble.

The assessed valuation of the area here considered, land and buildings, is a little over \$2,000,000. The interest and obligation of the State and City in the improvement proposed would seem to be essentially equal. It is a rare and inviting opportunity for private munificence to coöperate. A contribution to it, or to some specific part of it, is peculiarly in line with the purpose of the great White memorial fund of \$5,000,000. The income of that fund up to date has been used for purposes which, intrinsically worthy and desirable, have been in the judgment of many precisely such as are forbidden by the terms of the bequest, things which it was the duty of the City itself to provide from taxation. The clear central prescription of the bequest was the beautifying of Boston. The income of the fund for four years would be \$1,000,000. Where could that be more opportunely or fittingly applied than here?

By propitious coincidence, at the moment when this pamphlet goes to print, Mr. Cram gives to the press the outline sketch of his plan for the State House reconstruction. It is a plan for which every citizen of the Commonwealth should be devoutly thankful. Every man of taste and architectural knowledge must recognize that it meets in a masterly way the conditions of the problem; and the Legislature and the public should rise to the occasion. Mr. Cram's concern in the matter is a public blessing. Here is an architect who fifty years from now will be named with Bulfinch and Richardson in the apostolic succession of our great Massachusetts architects. His interest is so timely that it is hardly less than providential; and it may not safely be ignored. In close consideration of the practical problems, and in conference with his chosen associates, he will modify his details; but the main design will not and should not be changed. Should the suggested new State House park be created, the northern façade of this State House, monumentally treated, would be magnificent; and the spacious court provided by the plan would be the ideal place for our Founders Monument.

* * * *

A New England Historical Museum is long overdue. It accuses us that in this matter little Switzerland is so far ahead of us. The National Historical Museum at Zurich has no counterpart in the United States. We have no counterparts even of the Swiss local Historical Museums, at Basel and Berne. Our material is inspiring and extensive; and our pride and ambition ought to be co-extensive. We cannot believe there would be any failure in the generosity of our rich men, when our scholars submit an adequate plan. The commission for such a plan could be created by the joint action of the trustees of Harvard University, Boston University, and the Massachusetts Historical Society. The service of such a Historical Museum for the thousands of students in Boston and Cambridge, as well as for the general New England public, would be incalculable. The building should stand on the Cambridge side of the Charles River, between Harvard and the Institute of Technology, opposite the new buildings of Boston University; and it should be a building as large and magnificent as the great new Field Museum in Chicago.

Only the cornerstone of our New England Historical Museum could be laid in 1930. The worthy reconstruction of our State House can only be decreed this winter. The ground for our Founders Monument can only be cleared for 1930. But these things can be done; and it is in the inauguration of these noble permanent projects that our Massachusetts Tercentenary should have its culmination.

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